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was not accorded the same patient courtesy the Christian world meted out to a legitimate occupant of a throne" (p. xxii).

Cardinal Gasquet has carried the story of the English monasteries down to the Dissolution in the time of Henry VIII.; Dr. Guilday has now brought the narrative to the year 1795. It remains for some future historian to continue the investigation down to the present, when so many of the old Netherlandish foundations have moved across the Channel (see the tabular view, p. 40).

The researches have been made with great care and diligence, and they open up many paths for future investigators. Though not meant for the popular reader, the present work is timely: it describes the life of English exiles in Belgium, and appears when England is harboring thousands of Belgian refugees. It is also welcome as an admirable example of a thesis for the doctorate prepared at the now desolated University of Louvain, long recognized as perhaps the foremost Roman Catholic centre in Northern Europe for the study of ecclesiastical history. There are but few other teachers of church history in the United States who are at all acquainted with European archives. Through the impulse given by recent graduates like Dr. Guilday, Louvain may help to raise professional standards in America.

WILLIAM WALKER ROCKWELL.

*The Seymour Family.* By A. AUDREY LOCKE. (Boston and New York: Houghton Mifflin Company, 1914. Pp. viii, 386.)

*The Cavendish Family.* By FRANCIS BICKLEY. (Boston and New York: Houghton Mifflin Company. 1914. Pp. vii, 326.)

*The Cecil Family.* By G. RAVENSCROFT DENNIS. (Boston and New York: Houghton Mifflin Company. 1914. Pp. vi, 327.)

*The La Tremoille Family.* By WINIFRED STEPHENS. (Boston and New York: Houghton Mifflin Company. 1914. Pp. xvi, 341.)

THESE four volumes form a part of a *Great Families* series aiming to relate the origin and achievements of leading English and Continental families. Certain common characteristics mark those which have thus far appeared. They are not mere pieces of book-making designed to lure the reader who feeds on inconsequential and scandalous gossip, but sober, painstaking narratives based on the sources as well as the secondary literature, general and special. Each, in varying degrees, contains arid stretches, pages of familiar history, military and political, in which the more prominent members of the respective families were involved, plus some inevitable small beer in the case of a few whom nothing but an hereditary name would drag from oblivion. On the other hand, not a little new matter that is vivid and significant finds a place, and the lesser folk are, as a rule, courageously dismissed with scant mention. All four authors are admirably impartial: they "nothing extenuate, nor set down aught in malice".

Miss Locke gives us a picture of Henry VIII.'s third consort, Jane Seymour, which will be novel to most from its unflattering lights. Strikingly interesting is the story of the "Proud Duke" whose fame rests chiefly on his share in securing the Hanoverian succession, and who, with all his pride, was not above slinking in Harley's back door on occasion. That unsavory person the third Marquess of Hertford, whom Thackeray "damned to everlasting fame" in *Vanity Fair*, and whose last days are described so scathingly by Greville is shown to have been not without his good points, while his "wasted, misguided life", is partly explained by the fact that his declining years were "overshadowed by madness". The long drawn out account of the Lord Protector and his brother the Lord Admiral might have been compressed to advantage, and the rather confusing relations between the two branches of the house of Seymour would have been vastly clarified by a genealogical table. Indeed, all the volumes suffer from this lack, except for brief tables devoted to special branches of the Cecils and La Tremôilles. Walpole's witticism (quoted p. 274) is one of his best. A few slips might be noted. The account of the famous Floyd's case (p. 132) is so condensed as to be misleading. The name of the famous general, Lord Ligonier, is misspelled "Legonier" (p. 244). It is extremely doubtful whether Bute retained his secret influence so late as the advent of the Rockingham ministry (p. 252). Wilkes returned to England in 1768 not 1769 (p. 257). "Ferdinand, king of Prussia", must surely be wrong (p. 261) and Marck, duke of Albemarle, is an obvious misprint for Monck. No mention is made of the alleged marriage of George V. with the daughter of Admiral Seymour.

Mr. Bickley shows a scholarly caution in discussing the origin of the Cavendishes. What he has told about such picturesque figures as the formidable Bess of Hardwick, the learned Margaret, duchess of Newcastle, the captivating Georgiana, duchess of Devonshire, and that strange recluse and scientific genius Henry Cavendish, makes us wish that he had proportioned his work so as to set forth more such intimate details. However, he has contributed various findings that are welcome: for example, his ample account of the causes for the first Duke of Devonshire's imprisonment on the eve of the Revolution of 1688. Many pungent phrases of the author's and numerous felicitous quotations from contemporary sources might be quoted if space permitted. Duchess Margaret's defense of her literary activities contains observations worth pondering on in any age. The "hereditary probity" of the Cavendishes and their preference for retirement are well brought out, though, apparently, Mr. Bickley has not seen Holland's recent biography of the late Duke of Devonshire, else he would have inserted the duke's admirable story anent the proudest moment of his life. It is no longer believed that "the wars of the Roses made a holocaust of the old families". In view of what is known of the value of money in the sixteenth century one is inclined to doubt that £80,000 was spent on Chatsworth. It is

hardly correct to designate the elder Pitt as "the most capable politician of the day" (p. 217) and certainly misleading to say that tea was shipped to Boston free of duty (p. 227).

In many respects, especially from the standpoint of the historical scholar, G. Ravenscroft Dennis's *House of Cecil* is the most significant volume of the four. The author devotes chief attention to Lord Burghley, to the first Earl, and the third Marquess of Salisbury. While pretending to no originality in the case of Burghley and the late marquess she makes a real contribution in her account of the famous minister of James I., using the Hatfield manuscripts to good purpose. Throughout the book she very properly devotes her chief attention to personal rather than public questions. We are brought very close to the Earl of Salisbury, largely by means of contemporary estimates and letters, and while no attempt is made to conceal his faults we are left with the impression of having been in the presence of a really great man. His effusive letter to Elizabeth (pp. 152-153) is counterbalanced by one that is truly magnificent (pp. 197-198) and Raleigh's to him on the death of the earl's wife is unique in its loftiness of feeling (pp. 166-167). There are two delicious stories concerning "Old Sarum", the wife of the first Marquess of Salisbury (pp. 239-240). The account of the late prime minister is marked by strong conservative sympathies and by a decided animus against Gladstone, but Miss Dennis's final estimate of her hero is just and discriminating. The following are minor points which may be questioned. The use of Roman numerals in accounts was not exceptional up to the last century (p. 27). Antiquated notions as to the value of balance of trade are expressed (p. 61). It is not surprising that the earl's lack of external graces did not stand in his way in securing employment under Elizabeth.

Miss Winifred Stephens takes us across the channel and traces the history of the La Tremoille family from the Middle Ages to the French Revolution. While she has read widely in addition, she has made chief use of the family archives published by Duke Charles Louis in the last century. Brutality, greed, and sensuality as well as heroism and loyalty have been characteristic of the various members of the house and all is chronicled with equal frankness. The annals of the fourteenth century are enlivened by extracts from Froissart, and while there is rather too much on the wars of the fifteenth and sixteenth centuries, this is offset by much that is graphic: the romance of Condé, the stirring story of the Lady of Lathom who figures so largely in *Pevearil of the Peak*, the amazing career of the Princess des Ursins, and the thrilling adventures of the leaders of the family during the French Revolution; indeed, the treatment of the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries abounds in interest. While Miss Stephens has an eye for the picturesque and writes at times with dramatic power her style here and there is marred by colloquialisms and threadbare conventional expressions. Moreover, she is inclined to be rather uncritical in the use of the early chroniclers. One

questions, for example, whether Louis, the second count, became so absorbed in hunting that he would pass whole days without food or drink (p. 53). To speak of a *condottierri* (p. 74) is a distressing blunder, and obviously 1559, the date given for the birth of the Lady of Lathom, is a misprint for 1599 (p. 122). It is usually supposed that the Spanish ambassador at Paris and not Louis XIV. made the famous statement, "il n'y a plus de Pyrénées" (p. 231), and it is hardly fair to say that the Archduke Charles of Austria "called himself Charles III." of Spain, since he was proclaimed such by the allies (p. 244).

Externally these volumes are all that could be desired. The coats of arms of the respective families are stamped on the outside covers and each volume is illustrated, the pictures relating to the La Tremoilles being particularly fine. Altogether, the series promises to be of interest for the general reader and useful, in some degree, to the historian.

ARTHUR LYON CROSS.

*Harrington and his Oceana: a Study of a Seventeenth-Century Utopia and its Influence in America.* By H. F. RUSSELL SMITH, M.A., Fellow and Lecturer in History at St. John's College, Cambridge. (Cambridge: The University Press. 1914. Pp. ix, 223.)

IN this work we have a well-proportioned study of James Harrington's political ideas—their source, setting, and influence. The portions of the book treating of the life of Harrington, his style of argument, the significance of his theories, and the efforts made by himself and his friends to secure the adoption of his proposals by the English government, present nothing substantially beyond what has been contributed by Masson, Toland, Dwight, and others. The value of the work as a new estimation of Harrington's ideas lies in the parts which deal with the contemporary sources of Harrington's views, the contemporary criticism and defense of his proposals, and the subsequent influence of his ideas upon writers and statesmen in England, America, and France.

The main propositions of the *Oceana* are that political supremacy in any community must follow superiority in the ownership of landed property, and that for stability and soundness in government four devices are necessary—namely, the secret ballot, indirect election, rotation in office, and a bicameral legislature wherein the functions of debating and voting are kept separate. The author makes it clear that Harrington could draw these proposals, as well as the other essential features of his Utopia, not only from Roman historians and Greek philosophers, but also from events of his time, from suggestions put forth by men active in the constitutional reconstructions of his day, and from practices in city governments in Italy, the Netherlands, and France, in ecclesiastical and academic elections, and in the administration of merchant guilds. Har-